

SENATE BILL 1677

By Dixon

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11 and Title 68, Chapter 140, relative to hospitals and emergency services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 68-11-2\_\_.

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, if the board for licensing health care facilities is informed or otherwise discovers that any hospital or other health care facility is unreasonably detaining emergency ambulances or other emergency response vehicles in the process of delivering patients to such facility, and in so detaining such ambulances or other emergency response vehicles is preventing the emergency service personnel assigned to such vehicles from completing their appointed duties, the board shall convene a hearing to investigate any such allegation made against such facility. If the board finds the testimony and evidence presented at such hearing to be persuasive, the board shall suspend the license of such hospital or other health care facility for a period of time to be determined by the board or take any other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the board.

(b) The board for licensing health care facilities is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, the public welfare requiring it.